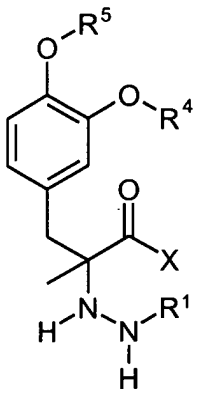
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

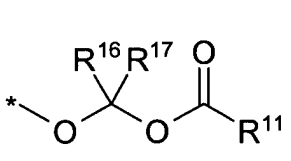
1. (Currently amended) A compound of Formula (I):



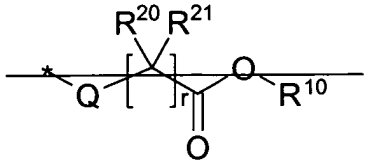
(I) ,

a stereoisomer thereof, an enantiomer thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a hydrate thereof, or a solvate of any of the foregoing, wherein:

X is a moiety of Formula (II) ~~selected from OR^{10} and moieties of Formulae (II) and (III)~~:



(II)



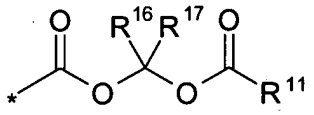
~~(III)~~ ,

where:

~~r is an integer from 1 to 6;~~

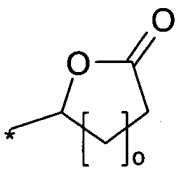
~~Q is O or NR^{15};~~

R^1 is selected from hydrogen and a moiety comprising Formula (IX):

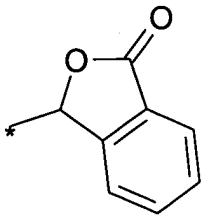


(IX)

R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heteroalkyl, substituted heteroalkyl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, substituted heteroarylalkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, substituted cycloheteroalkyl, $-C(O)OR^{27}$, $-C(O)R^{27}$, $-(CR^{16}R^{17})OC(O)R^{11}$ and moieties of Formulae (XVII) and (XVIII):



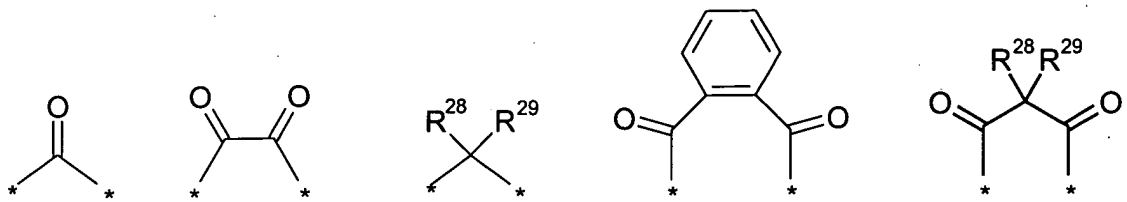
(XVII)



(XVIII)

wherein o is 1-3, and the cycloheteroalkyl rings in (XVII) and (XVIII) are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from halo, CN, NO_2, OH, C_{1-6} alkyl, and C_{1-6} alkoxy;

or R^4 and R^5 together form a structure selected from Formulae (XII) to (XVI):



(XII) (XIII) (XIV) (XV) (XVI)

wherein the aryl ring in Formula (XV) is optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from halo, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, and $-CO_2R^{31}$;

~~R^{10} is selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, substituted cycloheteroalkyl, heteroalkyl, substituted heteroalkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, and substituted heteroarylalkyl;~~

R^{11} is selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, heteroalkyl, substituted heteroalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, substituted cycloheteroalkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, and substituted heteroarylalkyl, or optionally, R^{11} and either R^{16} or R^{17}, together with the atoms to which R^{11}, and either R^{16} or R^{17} are attached, form a cycloheteroalkyl or substituted cycloheteroalkyl ring, optionally to which is fused an aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl or substituted cycloheteroalkyl ring;

~~R^{15} is selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, and substituted arylalkyl;~~

R^{16} and R^{17} are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, substituted alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, carbamoyl, substituted carbomoyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxycarbonyl, substituted cycloalkoxycarbonyl, cycloheteroalkyl, substituted cycloheteroalkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, and substituted heteroarylalkyl or optionally, R^{16} and R^{17} together with the carbon atom to which R^{16} and R^{17} are attached form a cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl or substituted cycloheteroalkyl ring;

~~each R^{20} and R^{21} is independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, acyl, substituted acyl, alkylamino, substituted alkylamino, alklysulfinyl, substituted alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, substituted alkylsulfonyl, alkylthio, substituted alkylthio, alkoxycarbonyl, substituted alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, aryloxy, substituted aryloxy, carbamoyl, substituted carbamoyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, substituted cycloheteroalkyl, dialkylamino, substituted dialkylamino, halo, heteroalkyl, substituted heteroalkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, substituted heteroarylalkyl, heteroalkyloxy, substituted heteroalkyloxy, heteroaryloxy, and substituted heteroaryloxy, or optionally, when r is 1, then R^{20} and R^{21} together with the carbon atom to which R^{20} and R^{21} are attached form a cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl or substituted cycloheteroalkyl ring, or optionally when R^{20} and R^{15} are present and are attached to adjacent atoms then R^{15} and R^{20} together with the atoms to which R^{15} and R^{20} are attached form a cycloheteroalkyl or substituted cycloheteroalkyl ring;~~

R^{27} is selected from alkyl, substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, substituted cycloheteroalkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, and substituted heteroarylalkyl;

R^{28} and R^{29} are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl, substituted alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, substituted aryl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, heteroalkyl, and substituted heteroalkyl; and

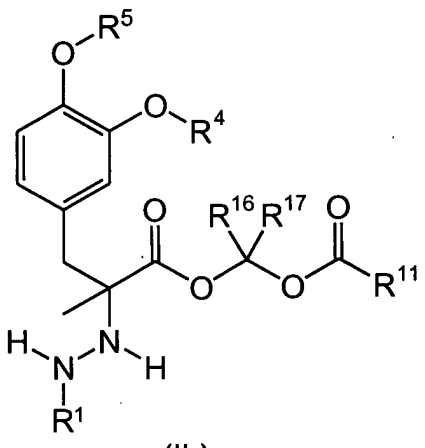
R^{31} is selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, substituted cycloheteroalkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, and substituted heteroarylalkyl; with the proviso ~~provisos~~ that

~~when X is OR^{10}, R^1 is hydrogen, and R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-19} alkyl, C_{1-19} aryl or C_{1-19} arylalkyl, then R^{10} is not hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl; and~~

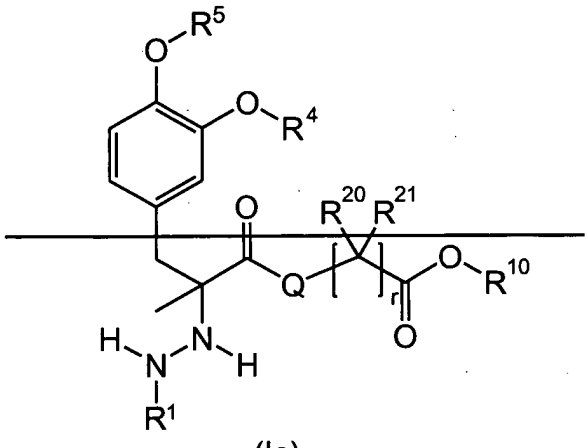
none of R^1, R^4, R^5, ~~R^{10}~~, R^{11}, ~~R^{15}~~, R^{16}, R^{17}, ~~R^{20}, R^{21}~~, R^{27}, R^{28}, R^{29}, and R^{31} comprise a bile acid moiety.

2 - 47. (Cancelled)

48. (Currently amended) A compound of ~~Formulae~~ Formula (Ib) ~~or (Ic)~~:



(Ib)



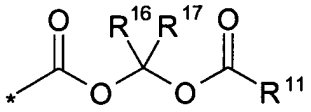
~~(Ic)~~

a stereoisomer thereof, an enantiomer thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a hydrate thereof, or a solvate of any of the foregoing, wherein:

~~Q is O or NR^{15};~~

~~r is an integer from 1 to 6;~~

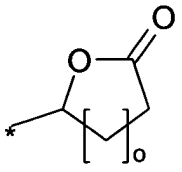
R^1 is selected from hydrogen, and a moiety comprising Formula (IX):



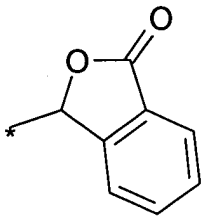
(IX)

,

R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heteroalkyl, substituted heteroalkyl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, substituted heteroarylalkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, substituted cycloheteroalkyl, $-C(O)OR^{27}$, $-C(O)R^{27}$, $-(CR^{16}R^{17})OC(O)R^{11}$ and moieties of Formulae (XVII) and (XVIII):



(XVII)

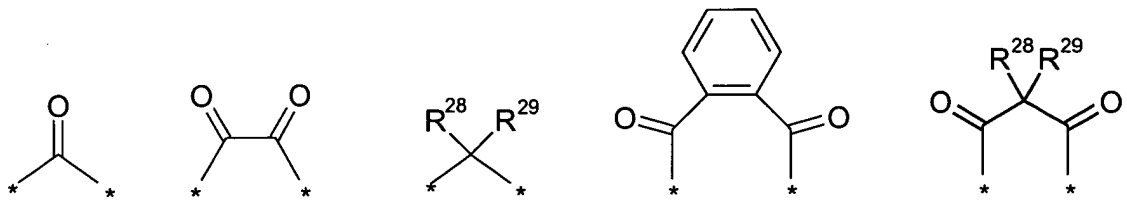


(XVIII)

,

wherein o is 1-3, and the cycloheteroalkyl rings in (XVII) and (XVIII) are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from halo, CN, NO_2, OH, C_{1-6} alkyl, and C_{1-6} alkoxy;

or R^4 and R^5 together form a structure selected from Formulae (XII) to (XVI):



(XII) (XIII) (XIV) (XV) (XVI)

wherein the aryl ring in Formula (XV) is optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from halo, CN, OH, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, and $-CO_2R^{31}$;

~~R^{10} is selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, substituted cycloheteroalkyl, heteroalkyl, substituted heteroalkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, and substituted heteroarylalkyl;~~

R^{11} is selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, heteroalkyl, substituted heteroalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, substituted cycloheteroalkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, and substituted heteroarylalkyl, or optionally, R^{11} and either R^{16} or R^{17}, together with the atoms to which R^{11}, R^{16} and R^{17} are attached, form a cycloheteroalkyl or substituted cycloheteroalkyl ring, to which an aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl or substituted cycloheteroalkyl ring is optionally fused to said cycloheteroalkyl or substituted cycloheteroalkyl ring;

~~R^{15} is selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, and substituted arylalkyl;~~

R^{16} and R^{17} are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, substituted cycloheteroalkyl, heteroarylalkyl, and substituted heteroarylalkyl or optionally, R^{16} and R^{17} together with the carbon atoms to which R^{16} and R^{17} are attached form a cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl or substituted cycloheteroalkyl ring;

~~each R^{20} and R^{21} is independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, acyl, substituted acyl, alkylamino, substituted alkylamino, alklysulfinyl, substituted alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, substituted alkylsulfonyl, alkylthio, substituted alkylthio, alkoxycarbonyl, substituted alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, aryloxy, substituted aryloxy, carbamoyl, substituted carbamoyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, substituted cycloheteroalkyl, dialkylamino, substituted dialkylamino, halo, heteroalkyl, substituted heteroalkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, substituted heteroarylalkyl, heteroalkyloxy, substituted heteroalkyloxy, heteroaryloxy, and substituted heteroaryloxy, or optionally, when r is 1, then R^{20} and R^{21} together with the carbon atom to which R^{20} and R^{21} are attached form a cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl or substituted cycloheteroalkyl ring, or optionally when R^{20} and R^{15} are present and are attached to adjacent atoms then R^{15} and R^{20} together with the atoms to which R^{15} and R^{20} are attached form a cycloheteroalkyl or substituted cycloheteroalkyl ring;~~

R^{27} is selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, substituted cycloheteroalkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, and substituted heteroarylalkyl;

R^{28} and R^{29} are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl, substituted alkoxycarbonyl, aryl, substituted aryl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, heteroalkyl, and substituted heteroalkyl; and

R^{31} is selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, substituted cycloheteroalkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, and substituted heteroarylalkyl; with the proviso that none of R^1, R^4, R^5, ~~R^{10}~~, R^{11}, ~~R^{15}~~, R^{16}, R^{17}, ~~R^{20}~~, ~~R^{21}~~, R^{27}, R^{28}, R^{29}, and R^{31} comprise a bile acid moiety.

49. (Original) A compound according to claim 48, wherein R^4 and R^5 are independently selected moieties from Formulae (XVII), and (XVIII).

50 - 51. (Cancelled)

52. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^1 is hydrogen.

53. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^1 is a moiety comprising Formula (IX).

54. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from hydrogen, alkanyl, substituted alkanyl, arylalkanyl, substituted arylalkanyl, heteroarylalkanyl, substituted heteroarylalkanyl, cycloalkanyl, substituted cycloalkanyl, cycloheteroalkanyl, and substituted cycloheteroalkanyl.

55. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, *sec*-butyl, *tert*-butyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, benzyl, and pyridyl, where the aryl

rings of the benzyl and pyridyl groups are optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, CN, NO_2, OH, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy and $-CO_2R^{31}$.

56. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from hydrogen, $-C(O)OR^{27}$, and $-C(O)R^{27}$.

57. (Original) A compound according to claim 56, wherein R^{27} is selected from C_{1-10} alkyl, substituted C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{5-8} aryl, C_{5-8} substituted aryl, C_{6-10} arylalkyl, and substituted C_{6-10} arylalkyl.

58. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^4 and R^5 are both independently $-C(O)OR^{27}$ or $-C(O)R^{27}$.

59. (Original) A compound according to claim 58, wherein R^{27} is selected from C_{1-10} alkyl, substituted C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{5-8} aryl, C_{5-8} substituted aryl, C_{6-10} arylalkyl, and substituted C_{6-10} arylalkyl.

60. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^{27} is an alkyl selected from alkanyl, substituted alkanyl, cycloalkanyl, substituted cycloalkanyl, arylalkanyl, substituted arylalkanyl, heteroarylalkanyl, and substituted heteroarylalkanyl.

61. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^{27} is selected from methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, *sec*-butyl, *tert*-butyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl and benzyl, where the aryl ring of the benzyl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, CN, NO_2, OH, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, and $-CO_2R^{31}$.

62. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^{27} is selected from aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, and substituted heteroaryl.

63. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^{27} is selected from phenyl, pyridyl, furyl, and thienyl, the aromatic rings of which are optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, CN, NO_2, OH, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, and $-CO_2R^{31}$.

64. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from hydrogen and $-(CR^{16}R^{17})OC(O)R^{11}$.

65. (Original) A compound according to claim 64, wherein R^{11} is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, substituted C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{5-8} aryl, substituted C_{5-8} aryl, C_{1-15} alkoxy, and substituted C_{1-15} alkoxy.

66. (Original) A compound according to claim 64, wherein R^{16} and R^{17} are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-16} alkyl, substituted C_{1-16} alkyl, C_{5-8} aryl, substituted C_{5-8} aryl, C_{6-10} arylalkyl, and substituted C_{6-10} arylalkyl.

67. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^4 and R^5 are both independently $-(CR^{16}R^{17})OC(O)R^{11}$.

68. (Original) A compound according to claim 67, wherein R^{11} is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, substituted C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{5-8} aryl, substituted C_{5-8} aryl, C_{1-15} alkoxy, and substituted C_{1-15} alkoxy.

69. (Original) A compound according to claim 67, wherein R^{16} and R^{17} are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-16} alkyl, substituted C_{1-16} alkyl, C_{5-8} aryl, substituted C_{5-8} aryl, C_{6-10} arylalkyl, and substituted C_{6-10} arylalkyl.

70 - 73. (Cancelled)

74. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formula (Ib)~~, wherein R^{11} is an alkyl selected from alkanyl, substituted alkanyl, alkenyl, substituted alkenyl,

arylalkanyl, substituted arylalkanyl, arylalkenyl, substituted arylalkenyl, cycloalkanyl, substituted cycloalkanyl, cycloheteroalkanyl, substituted cycloheteroalkanyl, heteroarylalkanyl, and substituted heteroarylalkanyl.

75. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formula (Ib)~~, wherein R^{11} is selected from methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, *sec*-butyl, *tert*-butyl, pentyl, hexyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, and styryl, where the aryl ring of the styryl group is optionally substituted with one or more substituents are selected from halo, CN, NO_2, OH, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, and $-CO_2R^{31}$.

76. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formula (Ib)~~, wherein R^{11} is selected from aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, and substituted heteroaryl.

77. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formula (Ib)~~, wherein R^{11} is selected from phenyl, pyridyl, indolyl, furyl, imidazolyl, and oxazolyl, the aromatic rings of which are optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from halo, CN, NO_2, OH, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, and $-CO_2R^{31}$.

78. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formula (Ib)~~, wherein R^{11} is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, substituted C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{5-8} aryl, substituted C_{5-8} aryl, C_{1-15} alkoxy, and substituted C_{1-15} alkoxy.

79. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formula (Ib)~~, wherein R^{11} is selected from methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, isopropoxy, butoxy, isobutoxy, *sec*-butoxy, *tert*-butoxy, pentyloxy, hexyloxy, cyclopropoxy, cyclobutoxy, cyclopentyloxy, cyclohexyloxy, 2,6-dimethylcyclohexyloxy, fenchyloxy, and adamantyloxy.

80. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formula (Ib)~~, wherein R^{11} and either R^{16} or R^{17}, together with the atoms to which R^{11} and either R^{16} or R^{17} are attached,

form a cycloalkyl, substituted cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl or substituted cycloheteroalkyl ring, to which an aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl or substituted heteroaryl ring is optionally fused to said cycloheteroalkyl or substituted cycloheteroalkyl ring.

81 - 83. (Cancelled)

84. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formula (Ib)~~, wherein R^1 is hydrogen, R^4 and R^5 are each $C(O)OR^{27}$, R^{16} is hydrogen, R^{27} is ethyl, R^{11} is selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, cyclohexyloxy, 2,6-dimethylcyclohexyloxy, fenchyloxy, and adamantyloxy, and R^{17} is selected from hydrogen, and C_{1-4} alkyl.

85. (Original) A compound according to claim 84, wherein R^{17} is hydrogen.

86. (Original) A compound according to claim 84, wherein R^{17} is methyl.

87. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formula (Ib)~~, wherein R^1 is hydrogen, R^4 and R^5 are each $C(O)R^{27}$, R^{16} is hydrogen, R^{27} is isopropyl, R^{11} is selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, cyclohexyloxy, 2,6-dimethylcyclohexyloxy, fenchyloxy, and adamantyloxy, and R^{17} is selected from hydrogen, and C_{1-4} alkyl.

88. (Original) A compound according to claim 87, wherein R^{17} is hydrogen.

89. (Original) A compound according to claim 87, wherein R^{17} is methyl.

90. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formula (Ib)~~, wherein R^1 is hydrogen, R^4 and R^5 are each $C(O)R^{27}$, R^{16} is hydrogen, R^{27} is *tert*-butyl, R^{11} is selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, cyclohexyloxy, 2,6-dimethylcyclohexyloxy, fenchyloxy, and adamantyloxy, and R^{17} is selected from hydrogen, and C_{1-4} alkyl.

91. (Original) A compound according to claim 90, wherein R^{17} is hydrogen.

92. (Original) A compound according to claim 90, wherein R^{17} is methyl.

93 -95. (Cancelled)

96. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^{16} and R^{17} are independently selected from hydrogen, alkanyl, substituted alkanyl, cycloalkanyl, substituted cycloalkanyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, arylalkanyl, and substituted arylalkanyl.

97. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^{16} and R^{17} are independently selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, *sec*-butyl, *tert*-butyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, phenyl, and benzyl.

98. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^{16} is hydrogen and R^{17} is selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, *sec*-butyl, *tert*-butyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, phenyl, and benzyl.

99. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^{16} and R^{17} together with the carbon atoms to which R^{16} and R^{17} are attached form a cycloalkanyl, substituted cycloalkanyl, cycloheteroalkanyl or substituted cycloheteroalkanyl ring.

100. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^{16} and R^{17} together with the carbon atoms to which R^{16} and R^{17} are attached form a cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl ring.

101. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^{16} and R^{17} are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-16} alkyl, substituted C_{1-16} alkyl, C_{5-8} aryl, substituted C_{5-8} aryl, C_{6-10} arylalkyl, and substituted C_{6-10} arylalkyl.

102-112. (Cancelled)

113. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formula (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^{28} and R^{29} are independently selected from hydrogen, alkanyl, aryl, and alkoxycarbonyl.

114. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formula (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^{28} and R^{29} are independently selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, phenyl, methoxycarbonyl, and ethoxycarbonyl.

115. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48, ~~having Formula (Ib) or (Ic),~~ wherein R^{28} and R^{29} are both hydrogen.

116. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^{31} is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-8} alkyl.

117. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 48 ~~having Formulae (Ib) or (Ic)~~, wherein R^{31} is selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, *sec*-butyl, *tert*-butyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, and cyclohexyl.

118. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, and a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound according to any one of claims 1~~, 2 or~~ 48.

119. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 118, wherein the pharmaceutical composition further comprises at least one additional active agent.

120. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 119, wherein the at least one additional active agent is susceptible to decarboxylation, and the amount of the at least one compound is in an effective amount to inhibit decarboxylation of the at least one additional active agent.

121. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 119, wherein the at least one additional active agent is selected from levodopa and prodrugs of levodopa.

122. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 118, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is formulated for oral administration.

123. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 122, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is a sustained release formulation.

124. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 119, wherein the compound and the additional active agent comprise a single unit dosage form.

125. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 118, wherein the at least one compound is present in an amount effective for the treatment in a patient of a disease selected from Parkinson's disease, and hypertension.

126. (Currently amended) A method of treating ~~a~~ Parkinson's disease in a patient, in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of an active agent that is susceptible to decarboxylation, and at least one compound according to any of claims 1~~,2~~ or 48.

127 - 128. (Cancelled).

129. (Original) The method of claim 126, wherein the active agent is selected from levodopa and prodrugs of levodopa.

130. (Currently amended) A method of treating ~~a disease~~ hypertension in a patient in need of such treatment comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound according to any of claims 1~~,2~~ or 48.

131. (Cancelled)

132. (Currently amended) A method of providing a therapeutically effective concentration of at least one active agent selected from levodopa and prodrugs of levodopa in the plasma of a patient, which active agent is susceptible to premature inactivation by decarboxylation, comprising co-administering to the patient the at least one active agent and the at least one compound according to any one of claims 1~~, 2~~ or 48.

133. (Cancelled)

134. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting decarboxylation of at least one active agent selected from levodopa and prodrugs of levodopa in a patient, comprising administering to the patient at least one compound according to any one of claims 1~~, 2~~ or 48.

135. (Original) The method of claim 134, wherein inhibiting decarboxylation comprises inhibiting a decarboxylase enzyme.

136. (Cancelled)